

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MIGRATING
DATA IN AN ELECTRONIC COMMERCE SYSTEM

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method for migrating product data within an electronic commerce system
(10) includes monitoring requests for products by users (20) of a global content
directory (42). The global content directory (42) includes a directory structure (44)
including a number of product classes organized in a hierarchy. Each product class
categorizes a plurality of products and defines one or more attributes of the products
categorized in the product class. The directory (44) also includes one or more
pointers associated with each product class. Each pointer identifies a seller database
(32) in which product data enabling a product transaction is stored for products
10 associated with the product class. The method further includes identifying the
location of a user (20) and determining that product data associated with a product
requested by the user (20) should be migrated from a seller database (32) to a storage
location closer to the user than the seller database (32). The method also includes
initiating the migration of the product data from the seller database (32) to the storage
15 location.